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Canberrans at work

More Canberrans are participating* in the labour force but are working fewer hours, says the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Full-time employees in the ACT in March 2007 usually worked an average of 42.4 hours per week - lower than the national average of 44.1 hours per week. Full-time employees in Western Australia recorded the highest average, at 45.3 hours worked per week. Part-time ACT employees worked an average of 18.4 hours per week, on par with the national average.

Approximately three quarters (73%) of the population aged 15 years and over participated in the labour force. This was the highest of all states and territories and compared to a national average of 65%. Women (67%) were twice as likely as men (33%) to participate in part-time employment.

In September 2006, 5% of employed ACT women wanted to work more and were available to work more. This compared with 3% of ACT men.

Further information can be found in *ACT Stats* (cat.no. 1344.8.55.001).

Media note:

*Labour force participants = All people 15 and over who are employed or unemployed, who are not members of the permanent defence force, diplomatic personnel from overseas governments, overseas residents in Australia and members of non-Australian defence forces and their dependants stationed in Australia.

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